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Letter dated 23 March 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wish to refer to the presidential statement dated 2 June 2000 (S/PRST/2000/20), in which the Security Council requested me to establish a panel of experts on the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for a period of six months. The Council also requested that the expert panel, once established, submit to the Council, through me, its final report at the end of the mandate.

In my letter dated 31 July (S/2000/796), I informed the Security Council of the composition of the Expert Panel and its related activities. The interim report of the Panel was submitted to the Council on 16 January 2001 (S/2001/49).

In view of the need for additional time to complete the final text, I recommend that the Panel submit its final report to the Council by 3 April 2001.

I would be grateful if you could bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. Annan

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